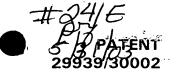
Serial No.: 09/649





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING Applicant: TRAVERS ET AL. UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.08 Serial No.: 09/649,399 I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Filed: AUGUST 28, 2000 Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents Washington, Title: DISH DRAINER AND TRAY P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-SYSTEM WITH COMPACT 1450, on May 13, 2003. STORAGE OF TRAY Group Art Unit: 3634 Examiner: NOVOSAD, J. E. Bryan J. Lempia Reg. No. 39,746

AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Attorney for Applicant

RECEIVED
MAY 2 2 2003

GROUP 3600

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the office action mailed on January 13, 2003 and the advisory action mailed on April 1, 2003.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

As an initial matter, applicants hereby respectfully request a one (1) month extension of time thereby extending the response due date until May 13, 2003.

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application, wherein claims 5-8, and 16 have been withdrawn from consideration as directed to a non-elected species, new independent claim 20 and new dependent claim 21 have been added, and claim 18 has been canceled. Claims 1-4, 9-15, 17, and 19-21 remain at issue. By this amendment, the total number of independent claims is increased to three (3), while the total number of claims remains at twenty (20). A check for \$110.00 is enclosed herewith for the extension of time.

Serial No.: 09/64:

PATENT 29939/30002

Interview Record OK 6/12/03 J Furthermore, applicants wish to thank Examiner Novosad for taking the time on May 6, 2003 to conduct a telephonic interview to discuss the pending claims and the overall status of this case. In accordance with the discussion, applicants amend the claims and present the following remarks.